

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

<b>Applicant(s):</b> Alan Lombardo et al.	: <b>Group Art Unit:</b> 3733
<b>Serial No.:</b> 10/676,062	: <b>Examiner:</b> James L. Swiger, III
<b>Filed:</b> October 1, 2003	: <b>Attorney Docket No.:</b> 62189.010701
<b>For:</b> BONE PLATE ASSEMBLY PROVIDED WITH SCREW LOCKING MECHANISMS	: : :

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO JUNE 6, 2006 OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS:**

This Amendment is filed in reply to the Office Action issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on June 6, 2006 in connection with the above-identified patent application. The June 6, 2006 Office Action provided a period of 3 months in which to file a response, i.e., by September 6, 2006. Accordingly, this Amendment is being timely filed.